

First of a Series

Pakistan--Civilization Cradle

(Editor's Note: Mohammad A. Khan, graduate student now attending A&M has written a series of articles on his native land of Pakistan. The first, "Pakistan--Its Cultural Background" commences the three installments.)

By MOHAMMAD A. KHAN

The territory now constituting the four-year-old Dominion of Pakistan has had a great and glorious cultural past. It was the cradle of great civilizations and had close relations with the various countries of the world, particularly the Middle and Far East.

In fact Buddhism and later Islamism were the most important cementing forces that bound the Asiatic countries with this land for centuries. But there is evidence that even earlier--in prehistoric times--Pakistan had commercial and cultural contacts with many countries, both of the East as well as the West.

Recent excavations at Harappa in the Punjab and Mohenjo Daro in Sind have amply proved that Pakistan, along with Mesopotamia and Egypt, was the center of one of the oldest civilizations in the world. Two cities built largely of baked brick, including well-laid houses, a regular street plan and an elaborate drainage system, have been unearthed.

Archeological Ruins At Taxila

Again at Taxila in the Punjab, 20 miles from Rawalpindi on the main railway line to Pesawar, are ruins of archeological interest. There are the remains of four distinct civilizations: Greek, Scythian, Parthian and Buddhist, the earliest having been occupied about 180 B. C.

Pakistan therefore, derives its present strength and character not only from a dominant ideology which first came to it with Islam twelve centuries ago, but also from a multitude of older ideas and achievements of pre-Islamic civilization upon this sub-continent, which are worthy of our closest and most sympathetic study.

It is no small matter to the Pakistani that, long before Islam, his country was the scene of one of the greatest civilizations of the prehistoric world. In the early historic period it produced a remarkable art which mingled Eastern and Western concepts, and that later, in Bengal, it evolved a lively craftsmanship from the genius of its own fertile soil.

The most predominant influence over this sub-continent, however, was that of Islam which shaped the culture and custom of the people of this land for a continuous span of over a thousand years. For example, the architecture which has left the deepest impression upon the buildings of this country is the Moslem architecture of Turkish, Persian and Central Asian origin brought by the Moslem rulers, and tinged greatly with the local atmosphere and craftsmanship.

Great Building Area

The period of Moslem rule over India is the greatest building era in the history of this land. This is exemplified in its spectacular achievements no less than in the elaboration and full realization of certain principles and forms which became fundamental to all architecture of this land.

The most valuable contribution of Islamic architecture is the dome of monumental size used in the building of mosques, shrines, and tombs throughout the sub-continent. The minaret, the niche, the monumental arch and the achievements in the sphere of architectural decoration, such as stucco, mosaic faience, pietra dura and the colorful inlay work along with thousands of other decorative devices, are

Defense Unchanged By Jap Settlement

By J. M. ROBERTS, JR., Associated Press News Analyst

ONE WAY you look at it, America's defense line in the Pacific is being extended by thousands of miles as a result of the Japanese peace settlement. But that is only a matter of words.

From the standpoint of hard fact, the situation remains unchanged. The United States learned in May 1942, when the Japanese boiled out of Truk headed for Australia, that there was no question as to whether we would fight for the Antipodes. The United States lacked both men and ships, but she did it anyway.

Not Realistic Line

When Secretary Acheson drew an American defense area through the Aleutians, Japan and the Philippines, omitting Formosa and Korea, it was not a realistic line, as events have proved.

From this standpoint, formal agreements do not alter defense perimeters one way or another. The Pacific defense line against Communism now runs, as a matter of fact from the Aleutians through Japan, Korea, Formosa, across the Northern border of Indochina, down the western shore of the Malay Peninsula, west of the East Indies to Australia and New Zealand.

There are no formal agreements to cover the easternmost bulge of the perimeter, but the line is placed there by the facts of life. Nor is this line a limit.

By the very policy pursued in Korea, Burma and even India could come within the line if attacked. In fact, the line through from

Burma to Iran is now the only sector on the Communist perimeter which is not covered by one sort of defense agreement or another.

Reduced Commitments

The actual hope of the United States in the Japanese settlement and the corollary defense agreement with Australia and New Zealand is that American military commitments will be reduced rather than extended.

American authorities are very reticent about the military contribution which will be expected from Japan under a mutual defense agreement which is expected to follow the peace treaty. One of its objectives will be to stabilize American military rights in Japan. The other will be Japanese participation in the common defense. This latter problem probably will be closely akin to the one about rearming Germany.

Neutrality to Overcome

There will be neutrality in Japan to overcome, just as in Germany. And there will be the question of allotment of available military material for rearmament.

If there is a truce in Korea, rearmament of South Korea will get priority. An informed guess would be that Japanese willingness and American ability to rearm her would hardly provide a Japanese army of more than 300,000 men in the next two or three years.

The world would hardly be a force sufficient to insure Japan's defense. It would, however, be a great relief to the United States, which now bears the full responsibility now.

The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions "Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

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some of the gifts which Moslem rulers introduced into Indian architecture.

Thus the famous Taj Mahal and the Pearl Mosque at Agra, the buildings of Fatehpur Sikri and of the Delhi Fort are essential Moslem in inspiration and execution and, though situated in Bharat (India) today, are a fundamental part of the heritage of Pakistan.

Painting, like architecture, received a great impetus under the Moslem emperors and here, too, was the tradition of Persia and other Islamic countries which held sway for centuries together. Beginning with some specimens which have a strong religious element akin to calligraphy and book-illumination, the art developed in the later period into extremely delicate and accurate portraiture combining a brilliant use of colors with perfect draftsmanship.

Mogul Painting Gains Dominance

The Mogul miniature painting, with typical Persian atmosphere in local subjects, which flourished in the sub-continent for over three centuries, achieved a predominant position in the fine art of the East. Modern times have seen a revival of the same style among the Moslems, and today Abdur Rahman Chughtai and Fyze Rahamin are two Moslem painters whose works have acquired international recognition. Among the younger painters of today the powerful, yet sensitive work of Zainul Abedin and Miss Zubeida Agha deserve special mention.

In music, as in architecture and painting, Moslem influence introduced profound changes. The cultural renaissance initiated by the Moslems in Northern India so profoundly influenced music that it is hard to tell what the Indian musical scale was prior to the Moslem era.

Moslem artists are still the acknowledged masters of music, both instrumental and vocal, in the entire Indo-Pakistan sub-continent, and are responsible for introducing scores of new musical modes like the different varieties of Todi, Darbari, Adana, Kafi and Kawwali. In Pakistan today, Lahore and Dacca are active centers of musical learning.

Pakistan is also rich in its folk dances, the heritage of the people since times immemorial. Bhangra is the most popular folk dance of the Punjab and it is performed on the eve of the harvesting time. But it is purely a masculine dance. Gidda, Kikki and Jhumar are, on the other hand, the dances for the fair sex for ceremonial and festive occasions.

The Khattak dance is the most popular mode of entertainment in the land of the martial Pathans and Frontier tribesmen, while the fertile land of East Pakistan is resplendent with a large variety of folk dances mainly inspired by colorful episodes of the Bengal lore.

Moslems Evolved Common Tongue

In regard to language, Moslems in this land evolved a common tongue known as Urdu. When they came to India in the 8th and subsequent centuries, they found several languages and dialects spoken in this country. A language of the common people was evolved which was called by the Turkish worker Urdu, meaning the language of the camp. In the course of centuries, Urdu developed into a great language and dominated every other language or dialect spoken over this sub-continent.

Today it can stand comparison with any other widely spoken language of the world in respect of its development in the fields of prose as well as poetry. The name of Dr. Sir Mohammed Iqbal, Pakistan's national poet, ranks high among the philosophic poets of our time.

Some of his works have been translated into foreign languages like "Secrets of Self," translated by Dr. Nicholson and "Persian Psalms," translated by Professor Arberry.

Tomorrow: "Pakistan--Situation and Resources."

Look At It This Way

Parr Interests Not Newsmen's Cause for Death

By JOEL AUSTIN, Battalion Editor

South Texas' big political machine which has grown in power to equal that of many big-city organizations has just about settled back to its off-election-year tempo. But we would like to bring this subject to your attention again and discuss a matter that was erroneously stated in a Battalion editorial several weeks ago.

Many readers from that part of the state voiced a quick disapproval when The Battalion editorial said newsmen W. H. "Bill" Mason was slain while trying to oppose the machine and publicize many of its uncouth operations.

Since we are a resident of Alice, the city from which Mason broadcast his daily program over radio station KBKI, we know that he DID NOT oppose the machine and he was paid by a member of the organization.

Before explaining this matter further, we would like to say that the word "machine" is used loosely in this article because we believe leader George B. Parr of nearby San Diego has kept his operations at a speed that would not justify the same name applied to comparable big-city political dealings.

As many readers will remember, Mason was fatally shot on an Alice street. The assassin was a member of the Sheriff's Department of Jim Wells County who has since received a sentence of life imprisonment for the crime. Mason had been blasting Deputy Sheriff Sam Smithwick's interests in a local "beer joint" which was

Employed by Radio Station

Mason was employed by the radio station and received his check from the same group--owners of the station--which supported Parr's efforts in Jim Wells County. He was not fighting Parr--at least not directly--over his daily broadcast because his "bread and butter" was coming from the Duval County politico's own representatives.

This information is based on an interview with D. C. Houston, former general manager of the station. He staunchly asserted that Mason never worked against the Parr regime, and Houston was, incidentally, the first to call our attention to that fact after publication of The Battalion editorial. Our apologies to you Mr. Houston and others from South Texas.

What Is Parr's Future?

Will he be quelled by his rein or will he continue to largely dominate the polls of Duval, Jim Wells, Nueces, Starr, Webb, and other counties? Will the recently passed election laws put a damper on his operations and cause some of his "tactics" to be done away with? Do recent defeats of candidates he has supported prove that people of



'Don't Butt In' Says Galveston's Mayor

DALLAS, July 17--(AP)--Galveston's mayor last night (1) said gambling, prostitution and other vice takes place openly in Galveston and (2) bluntly told other cities not to butt into Galveston's affairs. "We're just honest about it," Mayor Herbert Y. Cartwright told a reporter in discussing Galveston vice and the recent Texas House Crime Investigating Committee hearing.

"I could find a crap game in Dallas in five minutes," he said. "... As Good As Dallas People ..."

"We're as good as the people of Dallas, Fort Worth or where you please. "We don't want to butt into the affairs of our sister cities and we don't want them to butt into our affairs."

The chubby, 36-year-old Mayor Cartwright added that he had "no apologies to make for Galveston, or for the people of Galveston." Cartwright contended that vice could not be legislated out of existence. He said that it is better to regulate vice than to let it go on behind closed doors--that covered-up vice breeds gang wars.

Lot More Can Happen "A lot more can happen up a dark alley than in a brightly lit gambling club," he claimed.

The youthful mayor readily granted that vice conditions in Galveston are now just about as they were before the House probe. For a time, several noted gambling places padlocked their doors.

He also declared that outsiders could not open a gambling place or house of prostitution in Galveston. "But this isn't to protect local operators," he quickly added. "We don't want syndicated gambling moving in on us. Our operators are strictly local."

Cartwright claimed that the U. S. Senate Crime Investigating Committee under Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn) decided not to probe Galveston openly because, the Mayor said, secret sleuthing had failed to reveal any connection with national crime syndicates.

The mayor said that Maceo and Company, the Galveston gambling concern whose leaders were questioned closely by Merdith's state committee, "is by no means the only big Galveston gambling institution."

"It just happens that their clubs are famous for good service." His parting remark: No one, but no one, has ever been asked or forced to gamble in Galveston."

Advertisements for 'Campus' (Today & Wednesday First Run) and 'Excuse My Dust' (Red Skelton).

Britain, France Stop US Peace Bid

LONDON, July 17--(AP)--Britain and France moved into the open yesterday to block a reported bid for a military deal with Franco Spain.

Government spokesmen reported here and in Paris that both nations have told the United States they oppose: ● Spanish admission into the 12-nation Atlantic pact.

● Spanish military "association" with any member of the Atlantic pact. ● An American plan to acquire naval and air bases in Spain.

U. S. Disregarded Arguments The spokesman said the United States appears to have disregarded British and French arguments that the move will profit only the Communists. They warned that the Reds are sure to exploit it from one end of Europe to the other.

(In Washington, U. S. government sources spoke of the reported plans as involving a future, limited role for Spain in the western defense efforts. They said the U. S. is willing even anxious to obtain use of Spanish naval and possibly air bases in return for a promise of future U. S. arms and equipment for France's forces.)

(However, the United States reportedly has assured Britain and

France that no arms would be sent to Spain until after present western defense forces are adequately supplied.

(What is proposed, it was said, is that American arms output should be large enough in two or three years to help re-equip Spain's outmoded armaments without pinching arms deliveries to North Atlantic treaty forces.)

Franco's Regime

Britain, France, Norway and Denmark all regard Generalissimo Francisco Franco's regime as Fascist.

They argue the Atlantic allies and their cause will become tainted if anyone of them makes a military deal with Franco.

Franco, it is reported, has laid plans to prepare for that cooperation. An Associated Press dispatch from Madrid Saturday said he will reshuffle his cabinet this week to strengthen Spain's ties with the West.

His plans were said to include a measure of press freedom and other steps to make his regime more acceptable to democracies.

American Naval Chief of Staff Adm. Forrest P. Sherman arrived in Madrid today in the course of a swing through the capitals of West Europe.

Advertisements for 'PALACE' (Bryan 2-8879), 'QUEEN' (Now Showing), and 'SHOW BOAT' (New and Technicolor 100%).

A grid of comic strips by Al Capp, including 'Lil' Abner' and 'Daisy Mae'.